

Enrollment Summary 2020

Division of Enrollment Management

College Acronyms and Abbreviations

BUS	Driehaus College of Business
CDM	College of Computing and Digital Media
CMN	College of Communication
COE	College of Education
CSH	College of Science and Health
KGSB	Kellstadt Graduate School of Business
LAS	College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
LAW	College of Law*
Music	School of Music
SCPS	School of Continuing and Professional Studies
Theatre	The Theatre School

*College of Law figures represented in this book are based on Institutional Research and Market Analytics' September census date and may not match figures reported by the College of Law.

University Colleagues,

On behalf of the Division of Enrollment Management, I am pleased to present DePaul's 2020 enrollment summary, an annual report that describes the university's current enrollment position, student profile and trajectory over recent years. I hope the information on the following pages will impress upon you—as it has for me—the remarkable outcomes achieved by our DePaul community, which has worked together to imagine new possibilities and take action against impossible odds.

Many of our enrollment efforts were well underway before March 2020, as were the challenges and upheavals facing the higher education sector. The onset of the pandemic heightened our existing challenges, introduced many new ones and took away the luxury of time to create solutions. It also awakened the best in us as a community and helped us to see that change is the only constant, especially when it comes to enrollment. In a fall when postsecondary enrollment declined 3.3% nationally, DePaul enrolled 21,922 students—which represents a 0.6% loss over the previous year. This remarkable outcome is the direct result of the smart, dedicated and relentless work of many of our colleagues—each of whom have my gratitude—as well as our unyielding focus on what matters most to us all: our students.

Freshman enrollment is one of the highlights of our 2020 enrollment portfolio. We enrolled the largest freshman class in university history with 2,774 new first-year students, topping our previous record set in 2019 by 147 students and surpassing our budgeted headcount goal by 4.7%. The freshman cohort is one of the most diverse in DePaul's history, with 49% who are students of color, 32% who are Pell-grant eligible, 34% who are first-generation students and 32% who are from outside Illinois.

New master's student enrollment remained strong. The 1,732 new master's students who started this fall represent a 6.7% increase over last year. Overall graduate enrollment of 7,106 stands at 99.2% of the budgeted headcount goal and three students greater than last year. The colleges of Business, Education, Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, and Science and Health increased their overall graduate enrollment headcount over last year.

These strong new student outcomes were not enough to offset an overall decrease in continuing undergraduate students. This steady decline in the undergraduate student body tells us that we need to become more effective as a community in ensuring that a larger proportion of our continuing students persist and complete their college degree at DePaul.

The pandemic has taught us that there is power in our collective will and that we can achieve ambitious goals by thinking boldly and implementing decisive change. There has never been a better time or a greater need for us to band together using that collective will and our professional acumen to achieve our new student enrollment and continuing student re-enrollment goals. I am encouraged by and grateful for the university's response to these enrollment goals and new challenges, and I believe that we can and will achieve great things together.

Thank you for your dedication to our students. Thank you for the communities that you nurture. Thank you for your resilience and creativity. Herein lies our hope for the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Soumitra Ghosh". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Soumitra" and last name "Ghosh" clearly distinguishable.

Soumitra Ghosh
Vice President, Enrollment Management

University Enrollment

DePaul remains the nation’s largest Catholic university for the 23rd consecutive year with a total student enrollment of 21,922, compared with 22,064 in fall 2019.

Fall 2020 Enrollment



14,145

undergraduate students



7,106

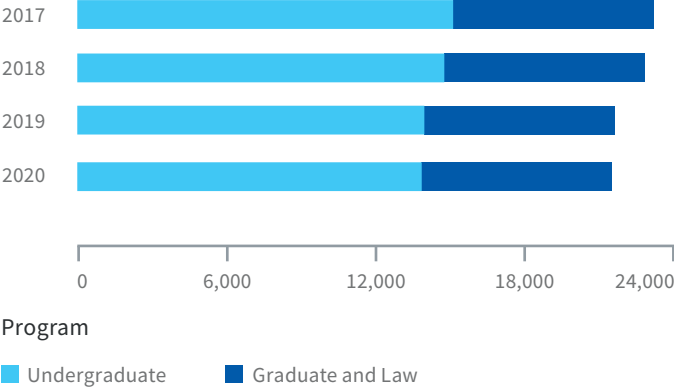
graduate students



671

law students

University Enrollment



University Enrollment by College

21,922 enrollment total

College

Business	5,741
Computing and Digital Media	5,293
Science and Health	3,248
Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	2,694
Education	1,519
Communication	1,369
Law	671
Continuing and Professional Studies	624
Theatre	413
Music	350

Credit Hours



77%

credit hours generated
by undergraduate



23%

credit hours generated
by graduate and law



83%

of all students enrolled
full time* in fall 2020

*Based on credit-hour load



277,144

total credit hours in
fall 2020





Undergraduate Enrollment

DePaul enrolled 14,145 undergraduates this fall, compared with 14,214 in 2019. Since 2016, new undergraduate enrollment has increased by 3% while continuing undergraduate enrollment has declined by 12%. This decline in continuing students can be largely attributed to part-time students who have declined 42%, compared with a 6% decline in full-time continuing students.

Full-time and Part-time Undergraduate Enrollment



12,776

Full-time



1,369

Part-time

Undergraduate Enrollment by College

BUS Students Enrolled

2018	3,738
2019	3,602
2020	3,508

CDM

2018	3,093
2019	3,227
2020	3,309

CSH

2018	2,365
2019	2,330
2020	2,373

LAS

2018	2,165
2019	2,065
2020	2,041

CMN

2018	1,411
2019	1,358
2020	1,219

SCPS

2018	722
2019	575
2020	562

COE

2018	452
2019	472
2020	506

Theatre

2018	331
2019	361
2020	391

Music

2018	230
2019	224
2020	236



Freshman Enrollment

DePaul welcomed a class of 2,774 new freshmen in fall 2020, the largest freshman class in DePaul's history, an increase of 147 students compared with 2019. Enrollment increased in all colleges with the exception of CMN. CDM enrolled the largest proportion of freshmen at 25%.

High School Academic Profile



1171

average SAT composite*



3.75

average high school GPA



364

students enrolled in
the University Honors
Program**



1,063

high schools
contributed freshmen



479

new freshmen enrolled
through the test-optional
program



152

freshmen in the Pathways
Program in Health Sciences

* SAT average includes scores for students who applied through the test-optional program and submitted scores post-admission for research purposes.

** There are five other college- and discipline-specific honors programs at DePaul. The information presented here does not include those programs.

Freshman Enrollment by College

CDM	Students Enrolled
2018	555
2019	674
2020	697

BUS	Students Enrolled
2018	632
2019	570
2020	606

CSH	Students Enrolled
2018	504
2019	507
2020	568

LAS	Students Enrolled
2018	496
2019	471
2020	480

CMN	Students Enrolled
2018	168
2019	176
2020	159

Theatre	Students Enrolled
2018	88
2019	104
2020	110

COE	Students Enrolled
2018	73
2019	72
2020	96

Music	Students Enrolled
2018	59
2019	53
2020	58

Most Popular Majors for New Freshmen

Major	Students Enrolled
Film and television	298
Health sciences	157
Computer science	145
Psychology	141
Accounting	139

Freshman Diversity



44%

of freshmen come from suburban Chicago or elsewhere in Illinois

32%

of new freshmen are from out of state. Top feeder states: California, Michigan, Minnesota

31%

of African American freshmen come from out of state



34%

of freshmen are from families in which neither parent has a bachelor's degree

2/3

of new freshmen are enrolled in CDM, BUS and CSH

46%

of this year's first-generation students come from suburban Chicago



44%

of all new freshmen are male

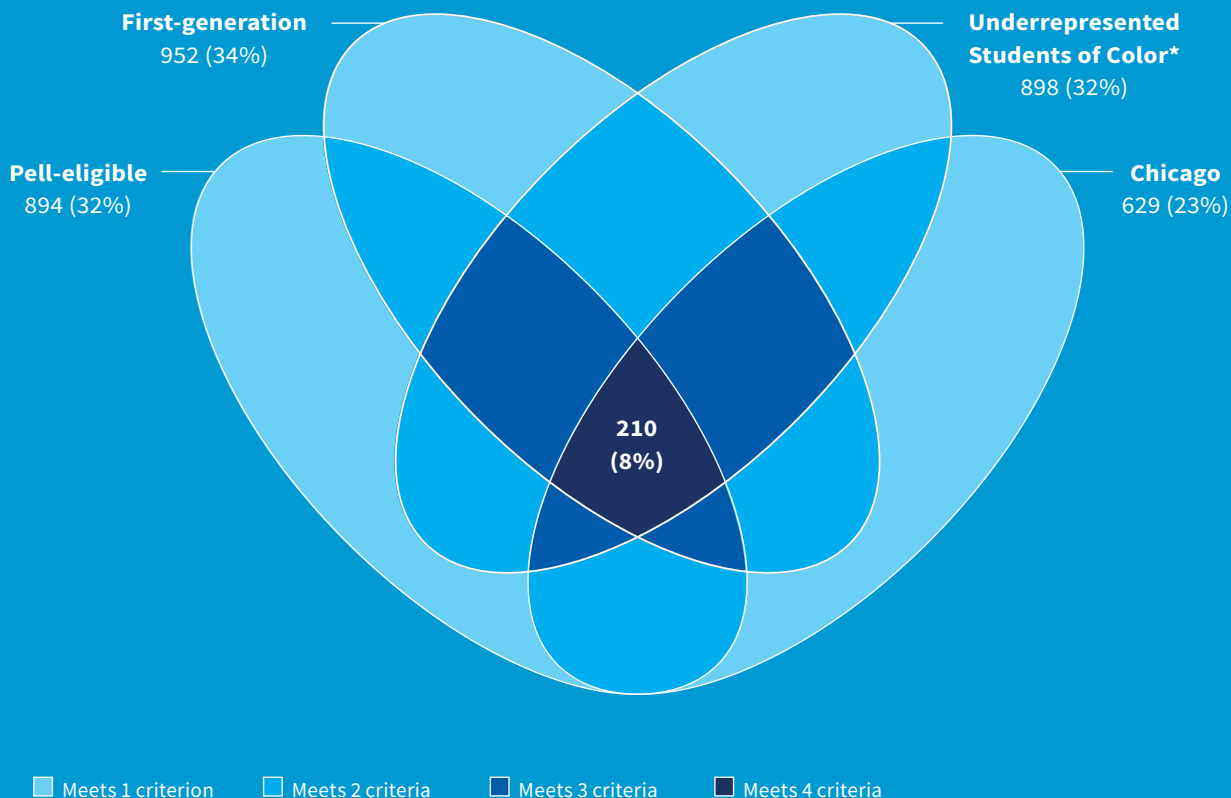
72%

of female enrollment is in COE, CSH and LAS

41% of freshmen who reported a religious preference are Catholic.

Enrolled Freshmen Fall 2020

One goal of DePaul's mission is to serve the needs of students traditionally underrepresented in higher education. To that end, we pay close attention to students who meet certain criteria that support our mission. This year, we have one of the most diverse freshmen classes in university history: 32% are underrepresented students of color, 34% are first-generation students, 32% are Pell-eligible and 23% are from the city of Chicago.



*Underrepresented Students of Color = American Indian, African American and Hispanic/Latinx

60%

or 1,653 students
meet 1+ criteria

24%

or 672 students
meet only 1 criterion

16%

or 452 students
meet only 2 criteria

11%

or 319 students
meet only 3 criteria

8%

or 210 students
meet all 4 criteria

Transfer Enrollment

DePaul welcomed 1,028 transfer students this fall, compared with 1,085 in 2019. While transfer students were down overall, transfer enrollment increased in CSH, LAS, Music and Theatre. BUS remains the largest transfer college, enrolling just over one-third of all transfer students. In addition to new transfers, DePaul welcomed 99 new undergraduate SCPS students, compared with 98 in fall 2019.

Fall Transfer Enrollment



1,028

total transfer students this fall



66%

of new transfers begin in fall quarter



72%

of new transfers enrolled in BUS, CDM, and CSH

Top 5 Community College Feeder Schools

College	Students Enrolled
College of DuPage	126
Oakton Community College	92
Harper College	88
Harold Washington College	66
College of Lake County	52

The top 5 feeder schools send 41% of all transfer students.

Transfer Enrollment by Term (for fiscal year 2019-20)

66

Summer

1,085

Fall

346

Winter

135

Spring

Transfer Enrollment by College

BUS	Students Enrolled
2018	384
2019	362
2020	347

CDM	Students Enrolled
2018	277
2019	246
2020	232

CSH	Students Enrolled
2018	150
2019	152
2020	160

LAS	Students Enrolled
2018	173
2019	135
2020	140

CMN	Students Enrolled
2018	129
2019	129
2020	94

COE	Students Enrolled
2018	41
2019	46
2020	35

Theatre	Students Enrolled
2018	7
2019	9
2020	11

Music	Students Enrolled
2018	9
2019	6
2020	9

Transfer Enrollment Through DAPP*	Students Enrolled
2018	74
2019	82
2020	53

*DAPP is a transfer admission program designed for students beginning their college education at a community college.

Transfer Diversity



65%

of transfers are from Illinois community colleges

25%

are from out-of-state institutions

6%

are from Illinois private four-year institutions



75%

of new transfers are under age 24

17%

of new transfers are 24 to 29 years of age

8%

of new transfers are 30 years of age or older



53%

of all new transfers are male

39%

are first-generation students

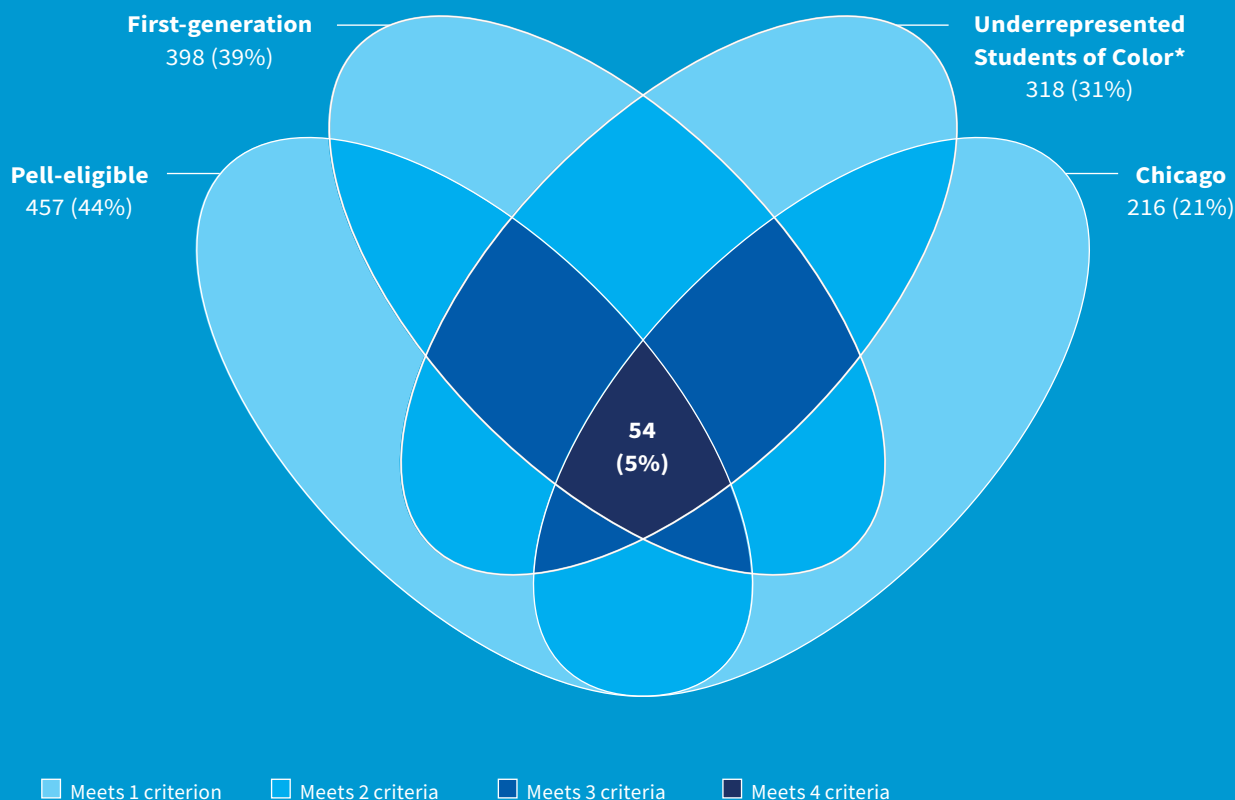
23

is the average age of new transfers

32% of transfers who reported a religious preference are Catholic.

Enrolled Transfers Fall 2020

One goal of DePaul's mission is to serve the needs of students traditionally underrepresented in higher education. To that end, we pay close attention to students who meet certain criteria that support our mission. This year, our transfer student cohort has 31% who are underrepresented students of color, 39% who are first-generation students, 32% who are Pell-eligible and 21% who are from the city of Chicago.



71%

or 732 students
meet 1+ criteria

30%

or 312 students
meet only 1 criterion

23%

or 237 students
meet only 2 criteria

13%

or 129 students
meet only 3 criteria

5%

or 54 students
meet all 4 criteria

*Underrepresented Students of Color = American Indian, African American and Hispanic/Latinx

Freshman Admission Trends



27,869

freshman applicants
for fall 2020



5,367

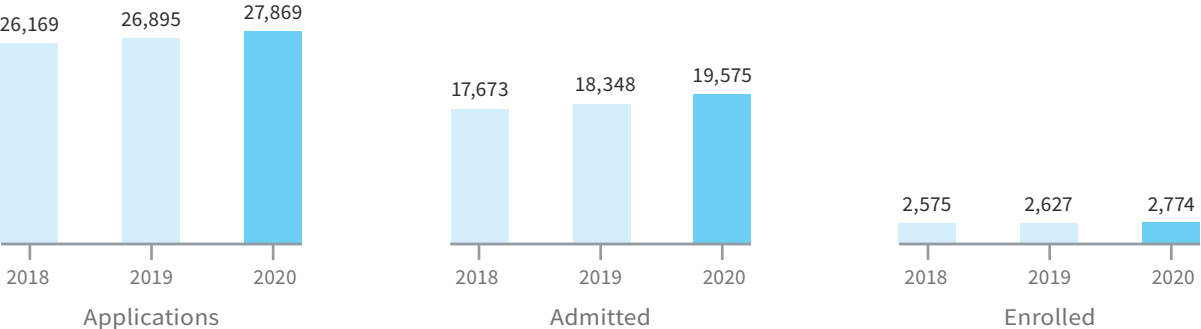
students applied through
the test-optional program



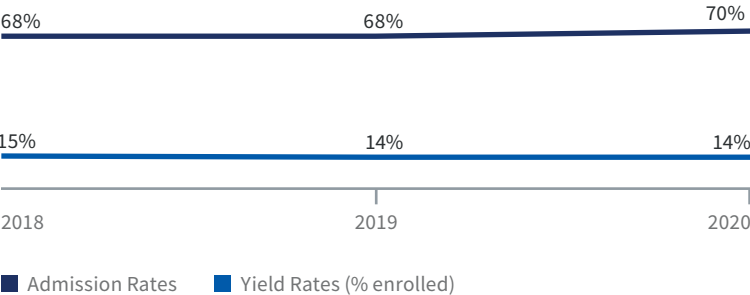
91%

completed the Free
Application for Federal
Student Aid (FAFSA)

Freshman Applications, Admission and Enrollment Yield



Freshman Admission and Yield Rates



Transfer Admission Trends



4,261

transfer applicants
for fall 2020



27%

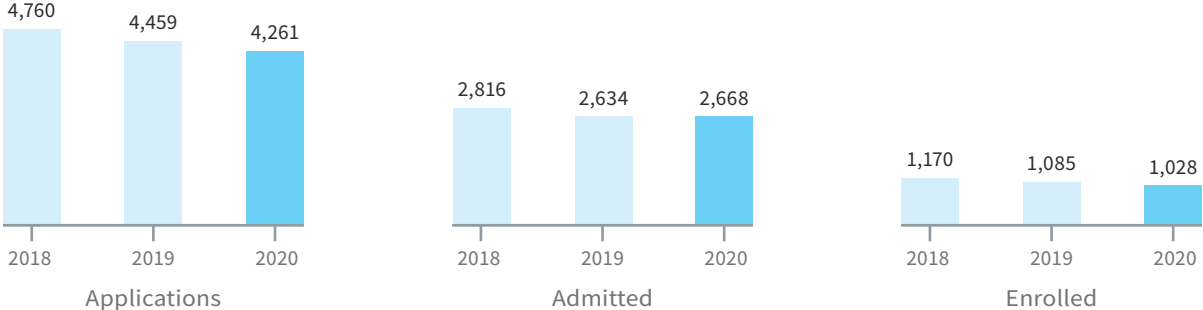
of all applications
are to BUS



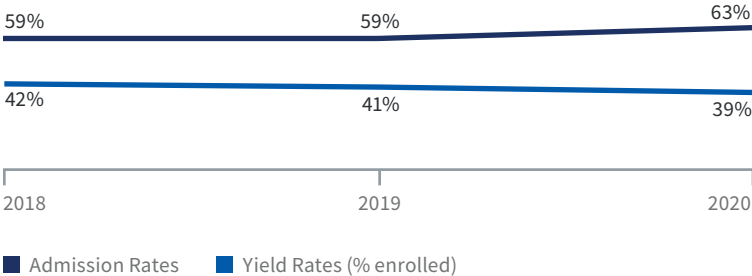
53

undergraduates entered
DePaul through the DePaul
Admission Partnership
Program (DAPP)

Transfer Applications, Admission and Enrollment Yield



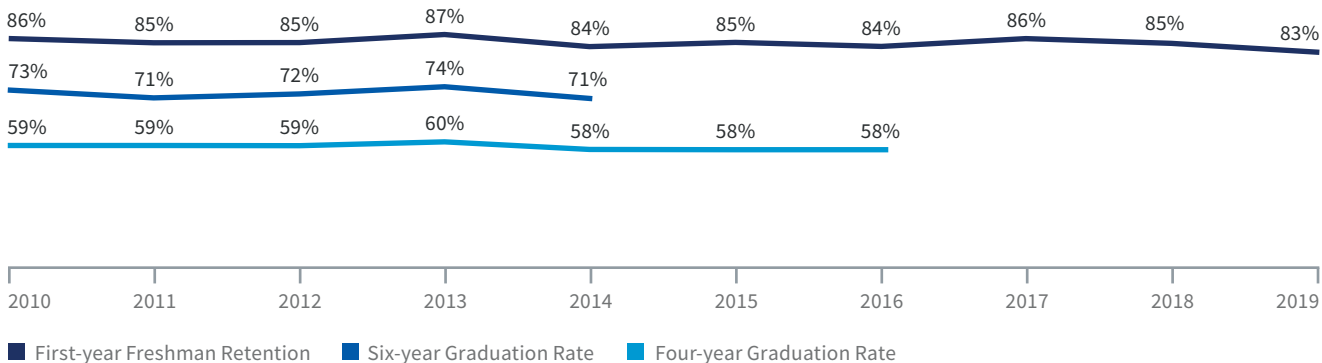
Transfer Admission and Yield Rates



Freshman Retention and Graduation Rates

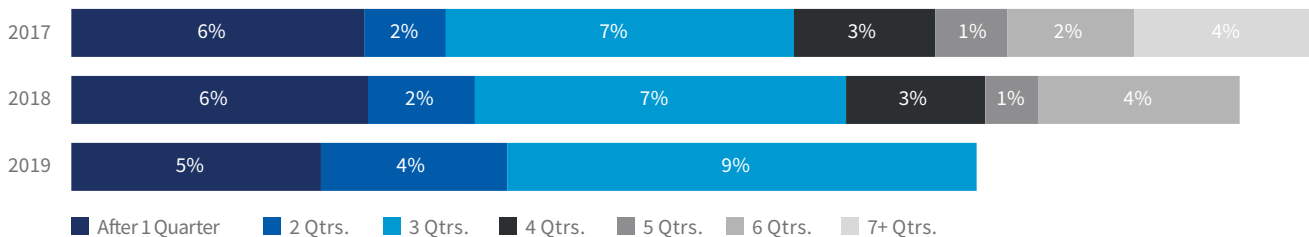
In fall 2020, 83% of the fall 2019 full-time freshmen cohort returned for their sophomore year, compared with 85% of the prior year's freshman class. The four-year graduation rate continues to exceed the national average for private four-year universities. This year, the four-year graduation rate for the 2016 freshman class was 58%, consistent with the last five years.

Freshman Retention and Graduation Rates by Freshman Cohort Year



In all three years, the greatest share of students from the freshman cohorts have left DePaul after three quarters, or one academic year. Of the 2019 freshman cohort, 9% did not return in fall 2020 compared with the 2018 freshman cohort that had 7% of its students who did not return in fall 2019.

Freshman Cohort Quarterly Attrition*



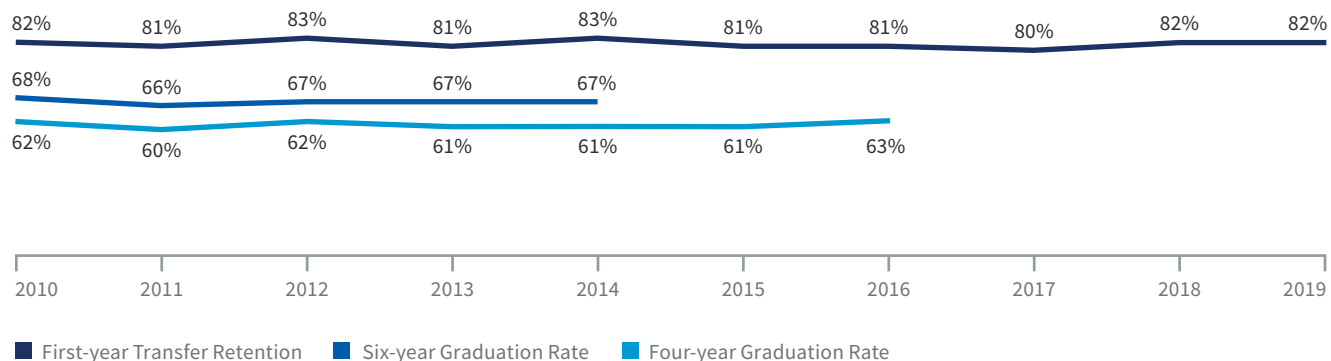
*Our methodology only includes fall, winter and spring quarters.

Note: Freshman-cohort figures in these two graphs may not match due to reporting methodology differences.

Transfer Retention and Graduation Rates

The first-year transfer retention rate* captures the percentage of new transfer students from all terms of the prior year who return for the fall term. Because the methods for calculating freshman and transfer retention rates are different, the rates should not be directly compared. The transfer retention and graduation rates have been relatively stable over recent years.

Transfer Retention and Graduation Rates* by Transfer Cohort Year



*SCPS students are not included in the transfer retention or graduation rates.

Graduate and Law Enrollment

Graduate Enrollment

In fall 2020, a total of 7,106 graduate students enrolled (excluding Law), compared with 7,103 students in 2019. Graduate enrollment in KGSB, COE, CSH and LAS increased in 2020. A total of 89% of all graduate students are master's degree students, 8% are doctoral students, and 3% are in certificate programs or non-degree seeking.

45%

of all graduate students
are 24 to 29 years old

39%

of all graduate students
are students of color

56%

of all graduate
students are female

1,258 graduate students, or 18%, who enrolled this fall received their bachelor's degrees from DePaul.

Law Enrollment

A total of 671 students enrolled in Law this fall, compared with 747 in 2019. Most law students are enrolled in the JD day program—72%—and 14% in the evening program, 12% in the Master of Jurisprudence (MJ) program and 2% in the LLM program.

22%

are age 30 or older

37%

are students of color

54%

are female

33% of students enrolled in Law are originally from out-of-state or international locations.

Graduate and Law Enrollment by College

KGSB Students Enrolled

2018	2,232
2019	2,203
2020	2,233

CDM

2018	2,042
2019	2,102
2020	1,984

COE

2018	939
2019	923
2020	1,013

CSH

2018	861
2019	856
2020	875

Law

2018	794
2019	747
2020	671

LAS

2018	659
2019	618
2020	653

CMN

2018	161
2019	156
2020	150

Music

2018	127
2019	141
2020	114

SCPS

2018	78
2019	68
2020	62

Theatre

2018	37
2019	36
2020	22



New Graduate Enrollment

New Master's Enrollment

Fall enrollment accounts for roughly half of new master's enrollment throughout the fiscal year. Over the course of the 2019-20 fiscal year, a total of 2,861 new master's students enrolled, and 57% enrolled in the fall.



1,732

new master's students
in fall 2020



82

new master's students
are enrolled in combined
degree programs



41%

are students of color

New Master's Enrollment by Term (for fiscal year 2019-20)

260

Summer

1,624

Fall

548

Winter

429

Spring

New Master's Enrollment by College

KGSB	Students Enrolled
2018	561
2019	491
2020	646

CDM	Students Enrolled
2018	555
2019	479
2020	396

LAS	Students Enrolled
2018	200
2019	209
2020	223

COE	Students Enrolled
2018	193
2019	169
2020	218

CSH	Students Enrolled
2018	149
2019	137
2020	145

CMN	Students Enrolled
2018	46
2019	56
2020	62

Music	Students Enrolled
2018	50
2019	60
2020	34

SCPS	Students Enrolled
2018	16
2019	10
2020	7

Theatre	Students Enrolled
2018	14
2019	13
2020	1



New Law Enrollment



177

new first-year JD students

44

new law students enrolled
in the MJ

3

new law students enrolled
in LLM programs

New Doctoral Enrollment



37

new doctoral students
enrolled in COE

34

new students enrolled
in the nursing doctorate
program

13

new doctoral students
enrolled in KGSB

Diversity

DePaul enrolled a university record 9,371 students of color in 2020, compared with 8,854 in 2019. Students of color account for 43% of total enrollment, 45% of undergraduate enrollment, 39% of graduate enrollment and 37% of law enrollment.

University Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity

Hispanic/Latinx Students Enrolled

2018	3,542
2019	3,718
2020	3,974

Asian

2018	2,105
2019	2,211
2020	2,331

African American

2018	2,072
2019	2,082
2020	2,172

Multiracial/Non-Hispanic

2018	931
2019	781
2020	830

American Indian/Alaska Native

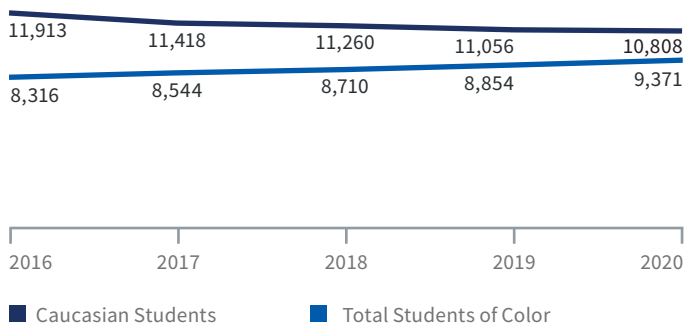
2018	29
2019	28
2020	34

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

Students Enrolled

2018	31
2019	34
2020	30

Total Students of Color and Caucasian Students



New Student Race/Ethnicity

	Freshmen	Transfers	SCPS	Master's	Doctoral	Law
African American	192	99	20	227	19	26
American Indian/Alaska Native	3	0	0	3	0	1
Asian	310	136	7	163	13	14
Caucasian	1,358	489	42	818	43	125
Hispanic/Latinx	703	219	27	261	9	37
International (Students on F1 and J1 Visas)	36	22	0	112	8	4
Multiracial/Non-Hispanic	146	43	0	48	2	6
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1	3	0	1	0	0
Other/Unreported Background*	25	17	3	99	14	12

*Includes international students on visas other than F1 and J1, as well as those who did not report a race or ethnicity.



International Students

In total, 1,058 students have international student status (on F1 and J1 visas), compared with 1,308 in 2019. This year, one-third of international students are undergraduates, and two-thirds are graduate and law students. International students represent 5% of total university enrollment.



331

international undergraduate students



38%

of international undergraduate students are enrolled in BUS



727

international graduate and law students

Top Countries of Origin

Students Enrolled

China	336
India	198
Taiwan	44
Saudi Arabia	41
Vietnam	33



National Comparisons

DePaul is the largest Catholic university in the nation and has been for 23 consecutive years, first exceeding St. John's University in total enrollment in 1998. DePaul enrolled about 14% of the total enrollment at the 10 largest Catholic institutions in 2020.

Nation's Largest Catholic Universities¹ By Enrollment

	Undergraduate	Graduate	Total
DePaul University	14,145	7,777	21,922
St. John's University	15,693	4,450	20,143
Georgetown University ²	7,513	12,080	19,593
Loyola University Chicago	11,612	5,281	16,893
Fordham University	9,399	6,965	16,364
Boston College	9,445	5,125	14,570
University of Notre Dame	8,874	3,935	12,809
Saint Louis University	7,769	4,512	12,281
University of Dayton	8,652	3,025	11,677
Marquette University	8,024	3,526	11,550

¹ Enrollment headcounts include final figures for part- and full-time, traditional and non-traditional/adult degree-seeking students enrolled in fall sessions, as self-reported by each institution. For-profit institutions, those outside of the Doctoral Carnegie Classification, and those with over 50% enrolled exclusively in distance education or online courses are excluded.

² Enrollment is from 2019 as institution did not have 2020 enrollment figures available at the time of publication.

Learn more at depaul.edu

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DEPAUL UNIVERSITY